

ROCKY LANE WESTERN

MOTION PICTURE AND TV STAR

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

ROCKY LANE

JUNE

Featuring His Stallion **BLACK JACK**

WESTERN

10¢

A CHARLTON PUBLICATION



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The Funman, Dept. M-109, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Illinois

ROCKY LANE WESTERN

Volume 8, Number 80

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JUNE, 1958

(Printed in U.S.A.)

ROCKY LANE WESTERN

Rocky Lane

THE LAWLESS DAYS WERE OVER, THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY SAID... THE RIDERS WHO SHOT OUT WINDOWS AND BRANLED IN THE STREETS WERE JUST REDBLOODED BOYS LETTING OFF STEAM! RED MIKE O'RELL FED THEM THEIR LINES AS THEY LAID DOWN RULES RESTRICTING ROCKY LANE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES. THEY HAD YET TO LEARN...

YUH CAN'T GENTLE OUTLAWS!



SPUR WAS A TOUGH TOWN... A VERY TOUGH TOWN WHEN ROCKY LANE TOOK OVER AS MARSHAL. ONE MONTH LATER, HE'D TAMED IT DOWN A LOT...

YO'RE RIDIN' HIGH NOW, LANE! BUT I'LL SAW YUH DOWN TUH SIZE!



I WISH YUH'D TRY, O'RELL! YUH SIC YOUR BULLIES ON OTHERS. YUH HAVEN'T THE NERVE YORESELF!

I'LL GET YUH OUT, FRAKE! DON'T WORRY!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

ROCKY LANE KNEW A LOT ABOUT RED MIKE O'RELL! HE KNEW HE WAS SMART AND DANGEROUS... BUT O'RELL'S NEXT MOVE PUZZLED ROCKY...

WHAT'S RED MIKE UP TO? MRS. JAYNES IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE!



JIMMY FRAKE IS A GOOD LAD! HE BENT MONEY HOME TO HIS WIDOWED MOTHER REGULAR! THE MARSHAL WAS TOO SEVERE!

BUT HE BROKE THE LAW!



WHY THE MARSHAL TREATS ANY MEN LIKE CRIMINALS! THIS IS A NICE, QUIET TOWN... UNTIL HE STARTS THE TROUBLE!

I HADN'T THOUGHT OF THAT! I MUST TELL THE GIRLS WHAT YOU SAID!



ROCKY LANE HEARD THAT PART OF IT... BUT HE DIDN'T TAKE IT SERIOUSLY UNTIL THE CITIZENS' COUNCIL CALLED A MEETING... HE WAS TOLD TO COME...

I'LL FIX YUH TODAY, LANE! WAIT AND SEE!

YOU'RE CLEVER, O'RELL, BUT YUH CAN'T WIN! YUH CAN'T BUCK THE LAW!



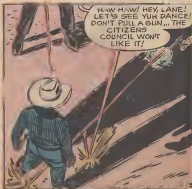
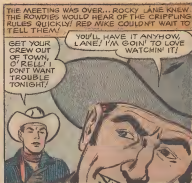
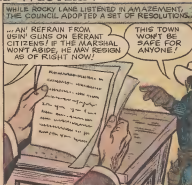
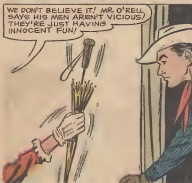
MR. MIKE O'RELL HAS POINTED OUT THAT WE HAVE A NICE, PEACEFUL TOWN! IT IS THE MARSHAL HIMSELF WHO CAUSES MOST TROUBLE! MR. O'RELL WILL TELL US THE DETAILS!



RIGHT NOW, JIMMY FRAKE IS IN JAIL! THE LAD WAS ONLY JOKIN' AND THE MARSHAL PISTOL WHIPPED HIM AND THREW HIM IN THE JUG! HE'S A TROUBLEMAKER! SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

THEY JEERED...THEY LAUGHED...BUT THEY STILL FEARED HIM, HE KNEW! HE WALKED TOWARD THEM SLOWLY, DISREGARDING THE BULLETS!

I'LL TAKE THOSE GUNS! IF YUH MAKE A MISTAKE AN' NICK ME, YOU'LL BE IN REAL TROUBLE! DROP THE GUNS!

DON'T LET HIM BLUFF YUH, SNAKE!



I SAID I'D TAKE THE GUN, SNAKE! LET IT GO OR...

OWW! LET GO! THAT HURTS!



LAY OFF, LANE! WE'RE GOIN'!

DON'T COME BACK! I'M LIABLE TUH GET MAD NEXT TIME! MAKE GUST!



MRS. JAYNES, PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' SOCIETY, HAD SEEN IT ALL! SHE THOUGHT IT WAS DANCY...

SEE? WASN'T THAT BETTER, MARSHAL?

MRS. JAYNES, I'LL BE AN OLD MAN IN A WEEK WORKIN' THIS WAY! I WAS SCARED TO DEATH!



THERE'S ONE OF YOUR REDBLOODED PRANKSTERS, MRS. JAYNES! HE'S HURT...THERE'S A GUNFIGHT GOIN' ON! AN' I GOT TO TALK TO 'EM!



DROP IT, MISTER! HOLD YOUR FIRE, THE REST OF YUH!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

HE HELD THEM FOR A MOMENT... THEY WERE AFRAID TO MOVE! THEN, RED MIKE O'RELL LAUGHED...

YOU GUYS AFRAID OF HIM? HE'S A TINHORN! HE CAN'T STOP YUH!

THAT'S RIGHT, LAWMAN, BACK OUTA THIS!



I'LL PEEL OFF THIS STAR IF I HAVE TUH HORSE THIEF! HAVE IT YORE WAY... DROP THE GUN AN' COME TUH JAIL OR FIGHT ME TUH A FINISH!

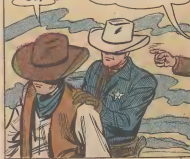


QUICK...MAKE UP YORE MIND!



I DON'T WANT TROUBLE! I'LL GO!

YORE TIME IS COMIN', DUDE! WE'LL NAIL YUH YET!



IF HE COULD GET LANE OUT OF THE WAY, O'RELL COULD RUN THE TERRITORY! HE CAME UP WITH A SCHEME THAT SEEMED FOOLPROOF! SHORTY PLATT AND BORDER JOHN PINSKI WERE CHOSEN FOR THE JOB...

THE BANK'S GOT A BUNDLE IN THERE...LANE WON'T BE WEARIN' A GUN! YOU GUYS WILL MAKE A PILE, AND NOT EVEN TAKE A CHANCE!



SOUNDS GREAT, MIKE! WE'LL DO IT!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

THE TWO MEN PLANNED IT CAREFULLY! MEANWHILE RED MIKE WAS TAKING AWAY THE LITTLE PROTECTION ROCKY LANE HAD LEFT...

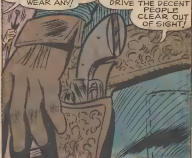
LANE'S STILL WEARIN' HIS GUNS! HE DOESN'T REALLY NEED THEM IN OUR LITTLE TOWN!

YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL SPEAK TO HIM ABOUT IT!



YOU DON'T NEED GUNS TO ENFORCE THE LAW HERE! YOU SHOULDN'T WEAR ANY!

LADY, IF I DIDN'T WEAR GUNS, RED MIKE'S CROWD WOULD DRIVE THE DECENT PEOPLE CLEAR OUT OF SIGHT!



HUNT COVER, MRS. JAYNES! THERE'S TROUBLE AT THE BANK!

I WILL NOT! I'M NOT FINISHED TALKING TO YOU!

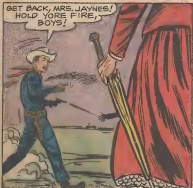


THE TWO GUNSLICKS HAD THE MONEY...ONE SHOT TOOK CARE OF THE GUARD! ONLY ROCKY LANE BARRED THEIR ESCAPE...

DROP THE GUN, PLATT!

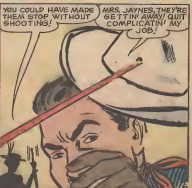


GET BACK, MRS. JAYNES! HOLD YORE FIRE, BOYS!



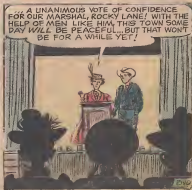
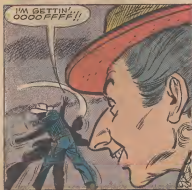
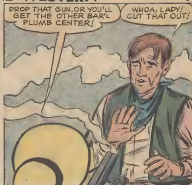
YOU COULD HAVE MADE THEM STOP WITHOUT SHOOTING!

MRS. JAYNES, THEY'RE GETTIN' AWAY! QUIT COMPLICATIN' MY JOB!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY HAD SEEN THE HOLD-UP! NOW, SHORTY PLATT MADE HIS BIG MISTAKE! HE SHOT AGAIN...



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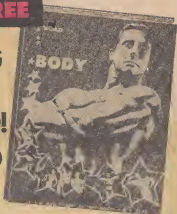
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Let me prove I can add 4 "pound-
packed" inches of muscle to your
chest! 2 inches of steel-like muscles
to your arms! Triple your strength!
8-8-8 — In half the time, with twice
the ease, right in the privacy of your
own home, in just a few minutes daily,
I will through my TRIPLE PROGRESSION
COURSE, step inches of steel-like mus-
cles to your chest/arm/leg, pack your
chest with "muscular dynamite," give
you lightning shoulders, dynamic,
sneaky, athletic legs — what you can

the way to becoming a "super star"
at sports, with jet-sharp saw strength
in every muscle of your body. I don't
care if you're slumped or fat, short or
tall, "lean" or fat, businessman, office
worker or laborer, I'll prove to you
that I can make a new video he-man
out of you . . . and help build "inner
strength" that will give you that Adonis
look women admire and men envy.
HAPPY ME PROVE IT . . . AT NO OVER
EXPENSE! Mail the coupon for my
FREE INTRODUCTORY COURSE OFFER
TODAY!

FREE! WHILE THEY LAST!

Nothing to buy! Yes, you heard right!

HURRY! THIS OFFER MAY BE WITHDRAWN WITHOUT NOTICE!

Don't miss the chance of a lifetime! Let
me prove to you — at my own expense
— that I can do for you what I did
for Jack Delinger and other champions!
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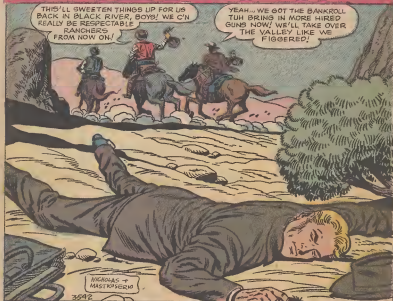
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ROCKY LANE WESTERN TENDERFEET GET TOUGH!



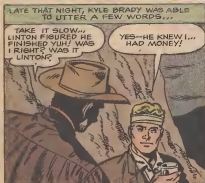
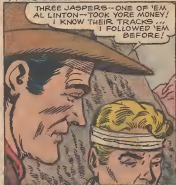
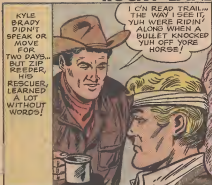
THE MAN
ON THE
GROUND
DIDN'T
TWITCH...
HE COULDN'T!
HE FELT
NUMB
ALL OVER!
LINTON'S
SLUG HAD
CREASED
HIS SKULL...
BUT HE
COULD HEAR
THEIR
VOICES!



HOURS LATER, A LONE RIDER
DISCOVERED HIM AND...



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

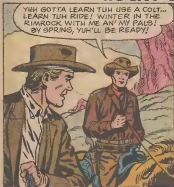


TWO DAYS LATER, THE TENDERFOOT WAS ABLE TO RIDE! HE WENT WITH ZIP REEDER--INTO THE BADLANDS, AWAY FROM CIVILIZATION!



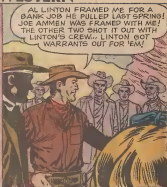
ROCKY LANE WESTERN

YUH GOTTA LEARN TUH USE A COLT...
LEARN TUH RIDE! WINTER IN THE
RIMROCK WITH ME AN' MY PALS!
BY SPRING, YUH'LL BE READY!



ZIP
REEPER
HAD
SOME
PECULIAR
FRIENDS...
NOT
ONE WAS
A THIEF--
BUT ALL
OF THEM
WERE
CALLED
OUT-LAWS!

AL LINTON FRAMED ME FOR A
BANK JOB HE PULLED LAST SPRING!
JOE AMMEN WAS FRAMED WITH ME!
THE OTHER TWO SHOT IT OUT WITH
LINTON'S CREW... LINTON GOT
WARRANTS OUT FOR 'EM!



WE'RE GONNA WINTER HERE
IN THE SPRING WE'LL GET OUR
NAMES CLEARED! YUH SEE,
WE ALL HAVE ONE THING IN
COMMON-- AL LINTON
IS THE ONE WHO
DID US DIRT!



KYLE
BRADY
LEARNED
HOW TO
USE A
COLT
FROM
ZIP
REEPER..
HE WAS
ADVISED
TO USE
ONE GUN
TIED
DOWN
LOW,
FOR
BEST
RESULTS!

GET READY...



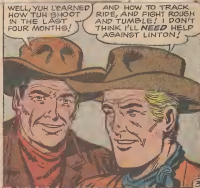
POW!
POW!

DRAW!



WELL, YUH LEARNED
HOW TUH SHOOT
IN THE LAST
FOUR MONTHS!

AND HOW TO TRACK
RIDE, AND FIGHT ROUGH
AND TUMBLE! I DON'T
THINK I'LL NEED HELP
AGAINST LINTON!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN



I'VE BEEN THINKING, ZIP...
LINTON WON'T RECOGNIZE
ME NOW! I'LL RIDE AND
LOOK AROUND! YOU
AND THE OTHERS CAMP
RIGHT OUTSIDE O' TOWN—
WHERE YOU WON'T
BE SEEN!

KYLE
BRADY
RODE
INTO THE
VILLAGE...
AL
LINTON
SAW HIM
COMING...



HERE COMES A
SADDLE-TRAMP!
MAYBE I CAN
USE 'IM!



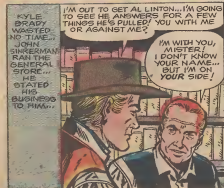
HUNTIN' A JOB?
IF YUH CAN USE THAT
GUN, I'VE GOT ONE
FOR YUH!

I SCARE EASY...
WOULD THE WORK
BE DANGEROUS?



NO... ME AN' THESE GENTS
RUN THINGS HERE... WE
JUST KEEP PLENTY O' MEN
ON THE PAYROLL TUH
KEEP IT THAT WAY!

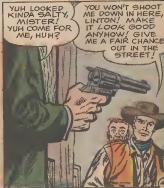
I'M NOT FOR
HIRE, LINTON!
SEE YUH
AROUND!



KYLE
BRADY
WASTED
NO TIME...
JOHN
SINKERMAN
RAN THE
GENERAL
STORE...
HE
STATED
HIS
BUSINESS
TO HIM...

I'M OUT TO GET AL LINTON... I'M GOING
TO SEE HE ANSWERS FOR A FEW
THINGS HE'S PULLED! YOU WITH ME
OR AGAINST ME?

I'M WITH YOU,
MISTER!
I DON'T KNOW
YOUR NAME...
BUT I'M ON
YOUR SIDE!



YUH LOOKED
KINDA SALT,
MISTER!
YUH COME FOR
ME, HUH?

YOU WON'T SHOOT
ME DOWN IN HERE,
LINTON! MAKE
IT LOOK GOOD
ANYHOW! GIVE
ME A FAIR CHANCE
OUT IN THE
STREET!

ROCKY LANE WESTERN

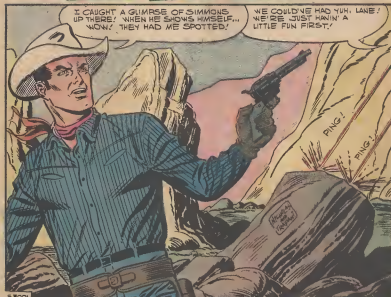


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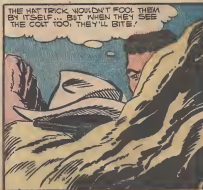
Rocky Lane

EIGHT LIVES GONE

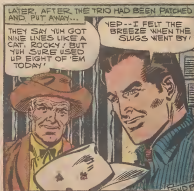
SIMMONS AND HIS TWO PET GUN-SINGERS WERE SURE THEY HAD ROCKY LANE AT THE OLD QUARRY! HE HAD NO WAY OUT... AND THEY HAD ALL DAY TO NAIL THE SECRET MARSHAL WHO'D BEEN ON THEIR TRAIL!



33001



ROCKY LANE WESTERN



END

Rocky Lane

in **MOB JUSTICE**

CASPER LAKE'S MEN RANTED AND SHOUTED FOR 'JUSTICE'... AND THE MEN THEY HARBORING LISTENED AND JUDGED CASPER LAKE AND HIS MOTIVES! THEN, THEY ACTED... AS ROCKY LANE WATCHED, READY TO MOVE IF THE MEN LAKE SHOUTED AT GOT OUT OF HAND!

EARL EDMONDS PLUGGED RED MURPHY! THE MARSHAL AIN'T GOIN' TO PUT HIM IN JAIL! ARE WE GOIN' TO LET EDMONDS RIDE OUT WITHOUT PUNISHMENT? I SAY **NO!**

I SAY YES, MR. LAKE! AND IF PETE COLE DOESN'T LOWER THAT WINCHESTER, I'LL COOL HIM OFF FAST!

CASPER LAKE'S GAMBLING HOUSE WAS PROSPERING -- BUT THE TOWN WAS GROWING! MEN LIKE EARL EDMONDS WANTED A CHANGE...

WE'VE GOT TO PASS NEW TOWN LAWS, ROCKY! CLOSE UP PLACES LIKE LAKE'S!

I KNOW, EARL! THAT DAY'LL COME SOON ENOUGH! MEANWHILE, KEEP AN EYE ON THE TRAILHANDS! THEY'RE IN TOWN FOR A GOOD TIME!

LAKE'S SALOON

NICHOLAS AND TRAPANI

'WATCH IT, DUDE! DON'T CROWD ME!'

OH, OH, EARL'S GONNA TAKE HIM APART! HE'S GOT A QUICK TEMPER!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

MURPHY WAS HURT... BADLY HURT! AND CASPER LAKE, CROOKED AND GREEDY, LED THE CRY FOR JUSTICE...

TAKE IT EASY, RED! A DOCTOR'S ON THE WAY!

LISTEN, MEN! EARL EDMONDS DID THIS! LET'S GO GET HIM!



CUT THAT TALK, LAKE! WE DON'T KNOW WHO SHOT MURPHY! DON'T START ANYTHING OR I'LL FINISH IT!



WHAT ABOUT IT, LAKE? HAS LAKE GOT THE RIGHT IDEA?

THERE'LL BE NO MOB ACTION IN THIS TOWN, TOM! I DON'T KNOW WHAT CASPER LAKE IS UP TO BUT I'LL FIND OUT!



CASPER LAKE'S BUNCH... THE GUNMEN GAMBLERS, NE'ER-DO-WELLS... DRANK FREE DRINKS AND SNARLED OMINOUSLY! THE MARSHAL LISTENED A WHILE, THEN...



CALL 'EM OFF, LAKE! TELL THEM TO QUIT YAPPIN'! YOU GIVE THEM THEIR ORDERS!

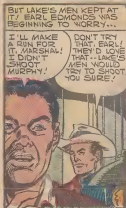
I WON'T STOP THEM, LAKE! EDMONDS GOT IT COMIN'!

I'M WARNIN' YIM, LAKE! CALL 'EM OFF!

I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

IT WAS THE MOMENT OF DECISION! WOULD THE CROWD BECOME A MOB... WOULD THEY FOLLOW CASPER LAKE? THE BLACK-SMITH MOVED FIRST...



I NE 'ER DID LIKE YOU, COLE! GIMME THAT JUN!

STOP IT! GO AFTER EDMONDS!

WE DON'T LIKE MOBS OR BUSHWHACKERS!



YOUR SCHEME FAILED, LAKE! YOU'RE STILL UNDER ARREST! DON'T TRY IT!

YOU'RE TOO WISE, LANE!



BAM!



BETTER, LOCK HIM UP, ROCKY! HE'S LIKE A WILD MAN!

HE'S WORSE... HE SHOT MURPHY ON LAKES ORDERS! BOTH OF THEM ARE GOING TO STAND TRIAL FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER!



YOU MEN TAUGHT LAKE AND HIS BOYS A LESSON! HE WANTED MOB ACTION -- HE GOT GROUP ACTION INSTEAD! THANKS, BOYS -- NOW BREAK IT UP AND GO HOME!

END

Cow Town

I never was able to find out the correct age of Jim Heffner. When I first met him more than a quarter of a century ago, he could talk about the time he went buffalo hunting. I tried to do some calculations and worked out that he must have been in his early eighties. But his mind was certainly clear. He would sit on the porch of his house in a comfortable rocking chair and speak about the "good old days."

"The West in the good old times, before the influx of the so-called better classes, was a great and lovable country," he told me one evening. "In modern life the test of survival is much a question of the money a man is able to make. In the West it was the individual who reigned. It was entirely different from what you find today. Take the little cow towns of the frontier.

It was a womanless society for the most part. The inhabitants might be cowboys, gamblers, teamsters, hunters, freighters, small storekeepers, petty officials and some professional men. The town was simply an eddy in the troubled stream of Western immigration. It caught all kinds of people and held them together. In the life of a modern business community we have the specialist. He sticks to his work. If a man starts to change his job, his friends are worried. They feel he should know how to do one thing and nothing else.

But in the West, all this was different. Versatility was a necessity. The successful man must know how to do many things. The gleanings of any one field of activity were too small to afford a living of themselves. This fact was accepted by the citizens of the country, sometimes with the grim humor which always marked the West. A young lawyer in a Western town had out a sign which read, "John Jones, Attorney-at-law, Real Estate and Insurance. Collections promptly attended to at all hours of the day and night. Good Ohio cider for sale at 5 cents a glass." A storekeeper had on his window the legend, "Wall Paper and Marriage Licenses." One of the prominent citizens of such a town was a farmer, a fighter, and a school teacher all in one. It was not unusual for a justice of peace to be a barber.

The leading minister of a certain thriving cow town, which experienced a boom in the early railroad days, eked out his scanty salary by working as a sign painter during the week. There seemed to the minds of the inhabitants of the

country nothing incongruous in this mixing up of occupations. It was taken for granted that a man would endeavour to make a living in the ways for which he seemed best fitted.

In any early cow town or mining camp of the West there was sure to be a man from Leavenworth. No apparent reason for this curious fact seems ever to have been given. Yet it is certainly true that no such town was settled without a man from Leavenworth to take part in the inauguration. He was apt afterward to be one of the town officers. He was nearly always a lawyer or claimed to have once been one. He was sure to be the first justice of peace.

The first female inhabitants of the town were also sure to come from Kansas. There seems to be no special reason for this fact. The family from Kansas nearly always came in a wagon and among the family there were usually two or three girls. There they were, and they were certain to become objects of admiration for a large cowboy contingent in a short period of time. There never was a cow town which did not have a family including "the girls from Kansas." And their fame was sure to be known abroad all over the local range. One by one the girls from Kansas would get married. And more kept on coming!

There was always a sheriff in a cow town. He was always the same sort of man; quiet, courteous, just, and much respected by his fellow men. The sheriff was the law to the folks. He was worthy of this feeling for nearly always he was a strong and noble man, worthy of the admiration he received.

There was always a barber in a cow town. And when a town was so run down that it could not support a barber, it was spoken of with contempt. Rarely did you find a dentist or a doctor, but there might be a druggist. There was always a little newspaper — a whimsical, curious little affair, which lived in some strange fashion, and whose columns showed a medley of registered and published brands and marks for the members of the cattle association living in that district. This business was almost the only source of revenue for the newspaper.

Of news there was none, except such as all men knew. The editor of the paper had a certain prestige in political matters. The paper was ground out from the hand press every week, or almost every week with a regularity that was very commendable. Sooner or later, if one paper

began to make more than a living, another paper came into town. Then life assumed an added interest with the inhabitants. Both papers were then read so that everybody might see what one editor was saying of the other. It behooved the editor to be careful of his criticism of any one, and always to be sure to "boom the town", no matter what else might be omitted from the paper.

One of the owners of the saloons was sure to be a gambler as well as dispenser of fluids. He had more money than anybody else, also a surer chance of sudden death. He always killed one or two men before his own time came. But his time came some day. He was then properly mourned and buried and the affair was discreetly mentioned in the papers. If it seemed that the gambler's partner was getting too "bad" to be needed in the economy of the town he was asked "to move on." And this he was wise enough to do. Another gambler came in then.

The lawyer of the town was something of a personage. His library did not amount to very much. It consisted probably of not more than two or three books. But the lawyer had all the authorities in his head and so did not need a library. The lawyer was naturally a candidate for the territorial council, for county assessor, or anything else that had any pay attached to it. Of strictly legal work there was not much to do, but the lawyer always remembered his dignity. You could always tell him in a crowd, for he was the only man in the town who did not wear "chaps" or overalls. The lawyer and the county surveyor sometimes had work to do in settling the lines of a homestead or some such thing when water rights were in dispute.

The cow town was very proud of any public improvements. It was very resentful of any attempt to cast slight upon such improvements. And it was very jealous of the pretensions of any other town of its neighborhood. The first coal burning stove, the first piano, and the first full length mirror to come to town made each

Sometimes in the winter season in the cow town, society would decide to hold a ball. The news of the coming ball was spread in the mysterious way that all news went over the plains. The cowboys fifty miles away were sure to hear of it and be on hand. They came on horseback from their ranches. Each man was clad in what he thought his best. The entire population of the cow town was there.

The ballroom was the largest room to be found in the town, wherever that might chance to be. Sometimes they had cakes made by the fair hands of the girls from Kansas. A fiddler was obtained from some place. Of course there was a great scarcity of women. No woman in those days ever feared about being a wallflower! For the men outnumbered the women a dozen to one.

Nearly all the male population of a cow town at the beginning was made up of single men who did all their own cooking. Some of these men were educated and had known other conditions of life. Their names might be a bit unusual for city folks to understand. There was Hard-winter Johnson, Straight-goods Allen, and of course, Tex and Shorty, and Red. Two-finger Haines was a name anybody could figure out first time it was heard. There might be many men by the name of John Jones, but there would only be one Overcoat Jones — a man who had the odd habit of wearing an overcoat all summer. There might be many Wallaces but only one known as Big Foot Wallace.

Almost everybody had at one time or another tried his hand at "punching cows." Therefore the little town which made itself the headquarters of the surrounding country was sure to have all the flavour of the range. Its existence, of course, depended upon the trade of the great ranches which bought it.

So long as Western fiction lives, then there will always be a cow town into which our hero can ride, looking for adventure.

— THE END —

[illegible]

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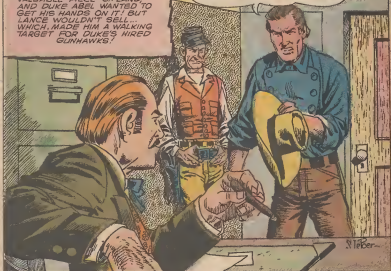
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ROCKY LANE WESTERN

FIGHTING MAN

LANCE HUBBARD OWNED A VALUABLE PIECE OF LAND, AND DUKE ABEL WANTED TO GET HIS HANDS ON IT! BUT LANCE WOULDN'T SELL... WHICH, MADE HIM A WALKING TARGET FOR DUKE'S HIRED GUNHAWKS!

I'M TELLIN' YOU FOR THE LAST TIME, DUKE! I'M NOT SELLIN'! I'M GONNA RAISE WHEAT ON THAT LAND!



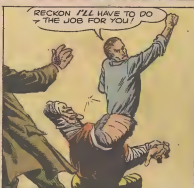
I'VE GOT WAYS TO MAKE YUH CHANGE YORE MIND! ALL IN GOOD TIME! THROW HIM OUT, REB!

A PLEASURE, BOSS!

OUT YUH GO, FARMER!

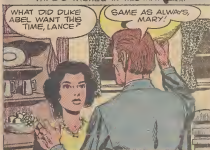
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!





ROCKY LANE WESTERN

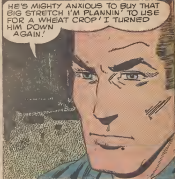
IT WAS UNUSUAL FOR AN EARLY SETTLER NOT TO CARRY A GUN IN THE UNTAMED TERRITORY, BUT LANCE HUBBARD HAD GIVEN IN TO HIS YOUNG WIFE'S WISHES IN THIS MATTER...



WHAT DID DUKE ABEL WANT THIS TIME, LANCE?

SAME AS ALWAYS, MARY!

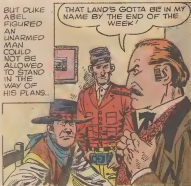
HE'S MIGHTY ANXIOUS TO BUY THAT BIG STRETCH I'M PLANNIN' TO USE FOR A WHEAT CROP! I TURNED HIM DOWN AGAIN!



THERE WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE? YOU WON'T WEAR YOUR GUNS?

NO DARLIN'. I WON'T GO BACK ON MY PROMISE TO YOU!

BUT DUKE ABEL FIGURED AN UNARMED MAN COULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO STAND IN THE WAY OF HIS PLANS...

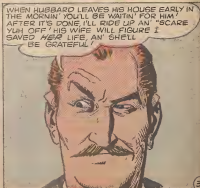


THAT LAND'S GOTTA BE IN MY NAME BY THE END OF THE WEEK!



AND IF HUBBARD WON'T SELL OUT.

.. MEBBE HIS WIDOW WILL, EH, BOSS?



WHEN HUBBARD LEAVES HIS HOUSE EARLY IN THE MORNIN' YOU'LL BE WAITIN' FOR HIM! AFTER IT'S DONE, I'LL RIDE UP AN' "SCARE YUH OFF 'HIS WIFE WILL FIGURE I SAVED HER LIFE, AN' SHE'LL BE GRATEFUL!

ROCKY LANE WESTERN

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING...

I'LL CIRCLE AROUND THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HOUSE. YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO.

DON'T WORRY, BOSS. ME AN' TINK WILL HANDLE HUBBARD.



LET ME GET IN THE FIRST SHOT, TINK. I OWE 'IM SOMETHIN' FER YESTERDAY.

RIGHT, REB.



THEN...

SHADOWS FROM BEHIND THE TOOL SHED. SOMEONE'S SET AN AMBUSH!



THE FIRST SHOT BARELY MISSED HIM, AS HE LEAPED ASIDE...



IF I MOVE FROM THIS SPOT, I'M AN OPEN TARGET. IF I ONLY HAD MY GUN!

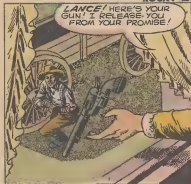


MARY HUBBARD LOOKED OUT AN UPSTAIRS WINDOW. HER MIND WAS A TURMOIL OF CONFLICTING THOUGHTS...



HE HASN'T A CHANCE UNARMED. MAYBE I WAS WRONG...

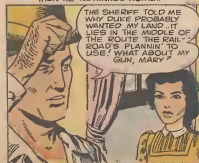
ROCKY LANE WESTERN



THE GUNMEN HAD COME OUT TO CLOSE IN ON THEIR "UNARMED" PREY, BUT...



LANCE RODE INTO TOWN WITH HIS CAPTIVES AND TURNED THEM OVER TO THE SHERIFF. THEN HE RETURNED HOME..



END

Rocky Lane's

BLACK JACK

RETURNED
FAVOR

FOUR YEARS BEFORE, BLACK-JACK HAD BEEN A COLT... A COLT IN NEED OF WATER AND FOOD AND PROTECTION FROM THE WOLVES! A DRIFTING COW-POKE HAD ARRIVED JUST IN TIME!



3251

TOPEKA, THE COW-POKE, FED BLACK-JACK AND GAVE HIM WATER. HE BACK-TRACKED AND SAW THAT THE COLT WAS SAFE ONCE MORE...

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW, YOUNGSTER! SO LONG!



HE WAS GONE -- BUT THE COLT LOOKED LONG AFTER THE MAN WHO HAD SAVED HIS LIFE!



ROCKY LANE WESTERN

BLACKJACK WAS FOUR-- A FULL GROWN STALLION-- WHEN THE COWHAND CALLED TOPEKA SHOWED UP AGAIN! THIS TIME TOPEKA WAS FACING THE DANGER...

WE KNOW YUH'RE CARRYIN' A LOT O' CASH, TOPEKA! UNSTRAP YORE SADDLEBAGS AN' TOSS 'EM OVER!



NO, YUH DON'T!



THE BLACK STALLION, ORDINARILY WARY WHEN RUNNING FREE, LEAPED DOWN!

LOOK OUT, YUH... AAAHH!

I'LL FIX HIM, JIM! IT'S BLACKJACK!



HEY-- I KNEW I SAW HIM BEFORE! IT'S THE COLT I RESCUED FOUR YEARS AGO!



THANKS, BLACKJACK! YUH RETURNED THE FAVOR WHEN I NEEDED IT MOST!

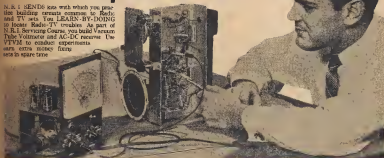


END

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ROCKY LANE WESTERN

Vol. 9 No. 80 - June, 1958

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